



MEETING NOTES

CITY OF SAINT PAUL

DATE: October 13, 2009

LOCATION: West 7th Community Center, Room 112

ATTENDING: Julie Murphy, Zoe Breimhorst, Cathalina Young, Dennis Chandler, Brian Singer, Tom Brock, Cody Olson, Jeff Martinka, Susie Odegard, Alice Messer

NOTES BY: Alice Messer

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- Alice Messer provided project overview with summary of available funding through Community Development Block Grant of \$373,000.00
- Presentation of existing conditions and site analysis. Discussed existing conditions addressing site lines into play area, existing mature trees, drainage patterns, sidewalk replacement, existing lighting and site amenities
- Goal and objectives were presented for Enhancement, Well Being and Safety categories
- Meeting opened up for community input.

Community wants included:

- 1) Explore splash pad option
- 2) Providing unique play area, draw for community
- 3) Swings together for tots and older children
- 4) Investigate rubber mulch option
- 5) Provide stroller access and make handicap accessible
- 6) Lighting of building entrance and play area when building open
- 7) Zip line for older children
- 8) Provide tricycle path around play area
- 9) "Theme" for play area with ideas of tree house, fort or trains
- 10) Picnic tables for summer lunch program

Community does not want:

- 1) Sand
 - 2) Play equipment that does not allow access to children while playing (no small crawling spaces)
 - 3) No enclosed slides
 - 4) No small swings that children get stuck in
- Discussed existing trees. Community open to explore tree removal as required for play space, however, shade within play area is important
 - Existing evergreens provide barrier between football/baseball field and play area,

- maintain as needed
- Summer lunch program operates out of community center. Explore providing picnic tables for outside eating
- Provide space for four-square play
- Flag pole no longer used. Ask if other parks sites looking for flag pole.
- Develop one central play area with space for 2-5 play and 5+ play
- Discussed resilient surfacing costs for play area. Funding will not allow entire play area to have rubber surfacing. Sand, rubber mulch or synthetic turf may be incorporated.
- Provide benches for parents to watch children surrounding play area
- Research Casey Jones for historical play area reference/theme
- Explore non-profits that may be able to provide site upgrades not included in project scope
- Explore opportunities for community to be involved in the construction phase of the project
- Discussion regarding name of park and play area. Confusion between West 7th Community Center and Saint Clair Play Area.
- Discussion on enhancing existing sign for West 7th Community Center. Will explore signage options if sufficient funding after play area and required site improvements. Would like banner placed on fence announcing opening of play area once constructed.
- Discussed time frame for play area. Design of play area will occur fall 2009 with involvement from Design Advisory Group. Construction documents developed winter 2009/2010 with construction beginning spring 2010.

Actions:

- Develop two different concepts for next meeting. One concept will protect existing trees; second concept will explore removing trees as appropriate for expanded play space
- Next meeting scheduled for **November 10, 2009 from 6:30 to 8:00**, West 7th Community Center
- Project page created on City of Saint Paul website at the following link:
<http://www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=1199>

Please contact Alice Messer at 651-266-6412 if any items are missing from the meeting notes or items were listed incorrectly